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## SOME CASES OF ALBINISM IN SNAKES

Albino individuals are rather well known among mammals and other higher vertebrates, and it is to be expected that they should be found among reptiles.

Three such instances of albinism have appeared recently. An albino Water Snake *Natrix sipedon sipedon* (L.) was collected by Mr. D. R. C. Clark, at Mountain Lakes, N. J., September 3, 1922, and is A. M. N. H. No. 23094. A few days later an albino *Elaphe* (*laeta*?) (B. & G.) was sent to the Herpetology Department of the American Museum by the New York Zoological Park. It is from College Station, Texas, and is now A. M. N. H. No. 23103. Both of these specimens show the usual albino characters—general lack of pigmentation, as exhibited by pink irises, white scales and skin.

In the case of the *Elaphe*, the snake was a general ivory white color, and with practically no suggestion of markings, while the Water Snake shows very light and obscure, but nevertheless typical crescent-shaped markings on the scutes, and some indication of dorsal blotches.

It should also be mentioned that the New York Zoological Park had until recently one living albino Rattlesnake, *Crotalus horridus* (L.), from Mt. Everett, Mass., collected by Mr. Edward Cole (now A. M. N. H. 23088). Its markings are more easily seen than in either of the above two cases.

Mr. Ditmars reports other examples of albinism in reptiles in Vol. XXIV, No. 6, N. Y. Zool. Soc. Bull.—A. I. ORTENBURGER, *New York, N. Y.*

## ON THE PRESENT STATUS OF OPHIDSAURUS IN WISCONSIN

The glass snake has long been known to occur in Wisconsin. Dr. Hay (Geology of Wisconsin, Vol. I, p. 423) says of it: "In the early days not uncom-

mon near Kenosha. They occur in the western part of the state as far north as La Crosse." Professor Higley, the only other serious student of Wisconsin reptiles, speaks of it as quite common (Transactions, Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, Vol. VI, p. 160). Cope (Report U. S. Nat. Museum, 1898, p. 500) reports a specimen from Baraboo.

Industrious and continuous search for this form during the last few years has shown it to be anything but common at the present time. Indeed only one specimen had found its way into our collection until a few weeks ago. This came from the banks of the Wisconsin River near Okee, Columbia County, a locality only about twelve miles from Baraboo, where Cope's specimen came from. A second specimen seen recently, but not in our collection, was also taken near Baraboo.

In May of this year, however, we received another specimen, taken at Neshkoro, in the northeastern part of Marquette County. So far as I know, this is the most northern record for *Ophisaurus* anywhere in its range. Indeed outside of Wisconsin it has never been reported even approximately so far north. All Wisconsin occurrences of *Ophisaurus* known to me lie near the Wisconsin River or the continuation of its valley down the Pox River. There is evidence that this stream and other tributaries of the Mississippi have been the highways of invasion for a number of species of more southern vertebrates into Wisconsin.

—GEORGE WAGNER, *University of Wisconsin*.

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Records or specimens of Salamanders from New England, especially *Plethodon glutinosus* and *Pseudotriton (Spelerpes) ruber*, would be much appreciated by E. R. Dunn, Northampton, Mass., as data for a monograph of New England Salamanders.